

CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. A method for publishing a catalog, comprising the steps
2 of:
 - 3 receiving from a supplier via EDI a flat file catalog;
 - 4 loading said catalog into a DB2 staging table;
 - 5 allowing buyer audit control over selected fields in
6 the staging table catalog while restricting buyer
7 access to other fields;
 - 8 updating a DB2 production table from said DB2 staging
9 table; and
 - 10 allowing a user read access to said DB2 production
11 table.

DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

1 2. A requisition catalog administration method for
2 providing control, audit, and publishing procedures for flat
3 files received from suppliers, comprising the steps of:

4 receiving a catalog flat file from a supplier;

5 converting said flat file into a staging table having
6 access control list controls over fields within said
7 staging table;

8 controlling through a graphical user interface edit
9 access authority to said staging table and through said
10 access control list access to fields within said
11 staging table;

12 responsive to input from a buyer granted access control
13 list access to selected field in said staging table,
14 updating said selected fields; and

15 responsive to buyer command, updating a production
16 catalog with said staging table for read access by
17 users in creating requisitions against said catalog.

1 3. System for building and using a web catalog,

2 comprising:

3 a supplier catalog flat file for storing catalog items
4 in an enterprise defined format;

5 a database including a staging table and a production
6 table;

7 an application server for receiving, converting and
8 storing said flat file to said staging table;

9 an administration function;

10 a catalog administration procedure for presenting said
11 staging table to said catalog administration function
12 in a graphical user interface with fields of said
13 staging table selectively enabled or disabled for
14 auditing in accordance with the role and authority of a
15 user of said administration function; and for
16 publishing an administration audited catalog to said
17 production table;

18 a requisition creation function operable by a user for
19 creating a requisition with reference to said
20 production table; and

21 a web catalog function for presenting said production
22 table to said requisition creation function.

1 4. The system of claim 3, said flat file comprising
2 catalog items stored in a column delimited format.

1 5. The system of claim 3, further comprising EDI means for
2 transferring said flat file through a firewall to said
3 application server.

1 6. The system of claim 3, said graphical user interface
2 comprising a process which loads a requisition catalog from
3 a supplier into a production system.

1 7. The system of claim 3, said catalog administration
2 function comprising hard coded access controls on the fields
3 in said catalog.

1 8. Method for managing an enterprise requisition catalog,
2 comprising:

3 extracting and reformatting supplier source data to
4 create a catalog flat file in an enterprise specified
5 column delimited format;

6 transmitting said flat file to an enterprise system;

7 accepting said flat file into an enterprise EDI
8 mailbox;

9 reformatting, validating and storing catalog data from
10 said flat file into a into a staging table, with
11 catalog indicia into a catalog staging file and catalog
12 parts indicia into a product staging file, and alerting
13 a buyer;

14 presenting a graphical user interface to said buyer
15 containing said catalog data and enabling said buyer to
16 change selected fields of data in said staging table;
17 and

18 responsive to buyer approval, migrating said staging
19 table data into a production table access by a user in
20 creating a requisition against said catalog.

1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to said validating step determining an error
3 in said flat file format or data, or responsive to said
4 buyer non approving said data in said staging table,
5 sending a reject message to said supplier.

1 10. The method of claim 8, said fields of data in said
2 staging table being selected for change based upon the level
3 of authority granted by a role table to said buyer's web
4 identifier.

1 11. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for publishing a catalog,
4 said method steps comprising:

5 receiving from a supplier via EDI a flat file catalog;

6 loading said catalog into a DB2 staging table;

7 allowing buyer audit control over selected fields in
8 the staging table catalog while restricting buyer

9 access to other fields;
10 updating a DB2 production table from said DB2 staging
11 table; and
12 allowing a user read access to said DB2 production
13 table.

1 12. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for providing control,
4 audit, and publishing procedures for flat files received
5 from suppliers, said method steps comprising:
6 receiving a catalog flat file from a supplier;
7 converting said flat file into a staging table having
8 access control list controls over fields within said
9 staging table;
10 controlling through a graphical user interface edit
11 access authority to said staging table and through said
12 access control list access to fields within said
13 staging table;

14 responsive to input from a buyer granted access control
15 list access to selected field in said staging table,
16 updating said selected fields; and

17 responsive to buyer command, updating a production
18 catalog with said staging table for read access by
19 users in creating requisitions against said catalog.

1 13. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for managing an enterprise
4 requisition catalog, said method steps comprising:

5 extracting and reformatting supplier source data to
6 create a catalog flat file in an enterprise specified
7 column delimited format;

8 transmitting said flat file to an enterprise system;

9 accepting said flat file into an enterprise EDI
10 mailbox;

11 reformatting, validating and storing catalog data from
12 said flat file into a into a staging table, with

13 catalog indicia into a catalog staging file and catalog
14 parts indicia into a product staging file, and alerting
15 a buyer;

16 presenting a graphical user interface to said buyer
17 containing said catalog data and enabling said buyer to
18 change selected fields of data in said staging table;
19 and

20 responsive to buyer approval, migrating said staging
21 table data into a production table access by a user in
22 creating a requisition against said catalog.

1 14. A computer program product or computer program element
2 for executing steps for providing control, audit, and
3 publishing procedures for flat files received from suppliers
4 by an enterprise requisition catalog system, said steps
5 comprising:

6 receiving a catalog flat file from a supplier;

7 converting said flat file into a staging table having
8 access control list controls over fields within said
9 staging table;

10 controlling through a graphical user interface edit
11 access authority to said staging table and through said
12 access control list access to fields within said
13 staging table;

14 responsive to input from a buyer granted access control
15 list access to selected field in said staging table,
16 updating said selected fields; and

17 responsive to buyer command, updating a production
18 catalog with said staging table for read access by
19 users in creating requisitions against said catalog.

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